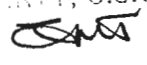


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

FILED  
2019 MAR -1 PM 3:45

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

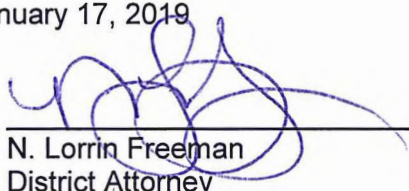
IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT )  
ISSUED IN CONNECTION ) N.C. C.S.C.  
WITH THE INVESTIGATION )   
BY N.C. STATE BUREAU OF )  
INVESTIGATION 2018-00619 ) MOTION

Now comes the State of North Carolina by and through District Attorney Lorrin Freeman for an order sealing the search warrant, the application of search warrant and the inventories of the items seized pursuant to the search warrant by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation. The State shows the following:

1. The N.C. State Bureau of Investigation is involved in an ongoing investigation. At this time, no charges have been initiated and the investigation continues.
2. That the investigators with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation applied for a search warrant to obtain records in the custody and control of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. on January 17, 2019. This search warrant will be served upon Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. at the Wells Fargo branch located at 1301 Fifth Avenue, Garner, NC 27529.
3. That once served return of the search warrant, the return and inventories of items seized will be made to the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court.
4. That these search warrants, including the inventories, and the returns thereof, have not been filed heretofore with the Wake County Clerk of Court.
5. That the affidavit attached to these search warrants include information that has not been previously been made public and to publicly disclose the information might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the State to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

WHEREFORE, the State moves the Court seal the application for search warrant and search warrant applied for on January 17, 2019, the return and inventories of items seized by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation and this motion.

This, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 17, 2019

  
N. Lorrin Freeman  
District Attorney

OLINA IN THE  
2019 MAR -1 PM 3:45

SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IT ) , C.S.C.

ORDER RE: SEARCH WARRANT

1. That a search warrant was issued on January 17, 2019, at the request of the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation as part of an ongoing investigation. This search warrant was for the purpose of obtaining records in the custody and control of the Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.
2. That the success of this investigation by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation may be hindered by the publishing, at this time, of the contents of the application and warrant, and return thereof, this Motion and Order in the several manners described in the State's Motion to Seal.
3. That information included in the search warrant, any attachments, application for search, the inventories of items seized, and the return includes sensitive information which is the subject of an ongoing investigation. The Court finds that return of the search warrant, any attachments, application for search, the inventories of items seized and the return is proper in Wake County based on the search warrant having been served in Wake County and in an effort to protect the investigation.
4. That the interest of justice will best be served by temporarily sealing said warrant, any attachments, return, application for search, the inventories of items seized, the Motion and Order.
5. That to publicly disclose the basis for the search warrant, or the inventory of those matters recovered from this location might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the state to prosecute a

defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

6. The information gained in the execution of this search warrant may be of substantial investigative value, leading to other searches, and that this entire investigation is an active process at this time.

It is therefore ORDERED that the application and search warrant, issued on the above referenced date, and the return and inventories therefore, and this Motion be sealed by the Court and the contents thereof not released for period of 90 days, with leave to request an additional period upon showing of good cause.

This, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.



Superior Court Judge

**SEARCH WARRANT****IN THE MATTER OF**

Leslie McCrae Dowless

Date Issued 01/17/2019 Time Issued 10:20 ☒ AM ☐ PMName Of Applicant  
Criminal Specialist D. S. Faircloth

Name Of Additional Affiant

Name Of Additional Affiant

**RETURN OF SERVICE**

I certify that this Search Warrant was received and executed as follows:

Date Received 1/17/2019 Time Received 10:20 ☒ AM ☐ PMDate Executed 1/17/2019 Time Executed 1:55 ☐ AM ☒ PM☒ I made a search of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.  
1301 5th Avenue Garner, North Carolina  
27529 with Shaidza Ramirez, Personal  
Banker

\_\_\_\_\_ as commanded.

☒ I seized the items listed on the attached inventory.☐ I did not seize any items.☐ This Warrant WAS NOT executed within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of issuance and I hereby return it not executed.

Signature Of Officer Making Return

Department Or Agency Of Officer

NCBI

Incident Number

2018-00619

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Wake County

In The General Court Of Justice  
District/Superior Court Division

To any officer with authority and jurisdiction to conduct the search authorized by this Search Warrant:

I, the undersigned, find that there is probable cause to believe that the property and person described in the application on the reverse side and related to the commission of a crime is located as described in the application.

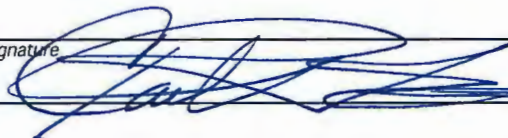
You are commanded to search the premises, vehicle, person and other place or item described in the application for the property and person in question. If the property and/or person are found, make the seizure and keep the property subject to Court Order and process the person according to law.

You are directed to execute this Search Warrant within forty-eight (48) hours from the time indicated on this Warrant and make due return to the Clerk of the Issuing Court.

This Search Warrant is issued upon information furnished under oath by the person(s) shown.

Date 01/17/19

Signature

☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Assistant CSC ☐ CSC  
☐ Magistrate ☐ District Ct. Judge ☒ Superior Ct. Judge

This Search Warrant was returned to me on the date and time shown below.

Date 3/1/19

Time

3:45☐ AM  
☒ PM

Signature

Joanne Turner☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Assistant CSC  
☐ Clerk Of Superior Court



## APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT

I, D. S. Faircloth, Criminal Specialist, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation,

(Insert name and address; or if law enforcement officer, name, rank and agency)

being duly sworn, request that the Court issue a warrant to search the person, place, vehicle, and other items described in this application and to find and seize the property and person described in this application. There is probable cause to believe that (Describe property to be seized; or if search warrant is to be used for searching a place to serve an arrest warrant or other process, name person to be arrested)

See Attachment #1

constitutes evidence of a crime and the identity of a person participating in a crime, (Name crime) NCGS 163A-920; 163A-1298(a)(6); 163A-1317

and is located (Check appropriate box(es) and fill-in specified information)

☒ in the following premises (Give address and, if useful, describe premises)

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

1301 5th Avenue

Garner, North Carolina 27529

(and)

☐ on the following person(s) (Give name(s) and, if useful, describe person(s))

(and)

☐ in the following vehicle(s) (Describe vehicle(s))

(and)

☐ (Name and/or describe other places or items to be searched, if applicable)

The applicant swears to the following facts to establish probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant:

See Attachment #2

### SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME

Date

1-17-2019

Date

Signature

Signature of Applicant

(S.D.) Faircloth, NCSBI

☐ Magistrate

☐ Dep. CSC

☐ Asst. CSC

☐ Clerk of Superior Court

☒ Judge

☐ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by additional affidavits, attached, made by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by sworn testimony, given by \_\_\_\_\_

This testimony has been (check appropriate box) ☐ reduced to writing

☐ tape recorded and I have filed each with the clerk.

**NOTE:** If more space is needed for any section, continue the statement on an attached sheet of paper with a notation saying "see attachment." Date the continuation and include on it the signatures of applicant and issuing official.

# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

File No.

Wake

County

In The General Court Of Justice  
☐ District ☐ Superior Court Division

## IN THE MATTER OF:

Name

Leslie McChae Dowless

## INVENTORY OF ITEMS SEIZED PURSUANT TO SEARCH

G.S. 15A-223, -254, -257

I, the undersigned officer, executed a search of:

Person, Premises Or Vehicle Searched

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 1301 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Garner, North Carolina 27529

Date Of Search

1/17/2019

This search was made pursuant to

- ☒ 1. a search warrant issued by: Superior Court Judge Carl Fox  
☐ 2. consent to search given by: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 3. other legal justification for the search: \_\_\_\_\_

The following items were seized:

A copy of any and all open and closed Wells Fargo Bank, N.A accounts and records associated with Patriots for Progress, since account opening, whether held solely or jointly, to include but not limited to the following records: signature cards, account opening information, bank statements, cancelled checks, deposit slips and the items making up the deposits, cashier's checks and offsets, official checks and offsets, wire transfers and wire transfer detail, cash in/out tickets, online banking activity, and any other records associated with Patriots for Progress.  
 CS Finchett received the information by email from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. on ~~March~~ 27, 2019 at  $\approx$  3:11pm by email.  
 Bank Reference # 21289000  
 Khary DSF

nothing further CS DS Finchett 3/1/2019

Original - File

Copy - For Search by Warrant of a Person, to Person from Whom Items Taken

Copy - For Search by Warrant of Vehicle/Premises, to Owner or Person in Apparent Control; if No Such Person Present, Leave Copy Affixed Thereon

Copies - For Search by Consent, to Person Giving Consent and Owner of Vehicle/Premises Searched, if Known

Items Seized Continued:

nothing further CSDS Finkelt 3/1/2019

☐ 1. I left a copy of this inventory with the person named below, who is:

- ☐ a. the owner of the premises searched.
- ☐ b. the owner of the vehicle searched.
- ☐ c. the person in apparent control of the premises searched.
- ☐ d. the person in apparent control of the vehicle searched.
- ☐ e. the person from whom the items were taken.

☒ 2. As no person was present, I left a copy of this inventory:

- ☐ a. in the premises searched, identified on the reverse.
- ☐ b. in the vehicle searched, identified on the reverse.

Name And Address Of Person To Whom A Copy Of This Inventory Was Delivered, If Any

CSDS Finkelt <sup>delivered DCF</sup> <sup>3/1/2019</sup> a copy of the inventory of items seized pursuant to search to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 1301 5th Avenue, Garner, North Carolina on 3/1/2019 which will be included in the investigative case file for NCBI Case 2018-00619.

The law enforcement agency identified below will hold the seized property subject to court order.

<b>SWORN/AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME</b>		Name Of Law Enforcement Officer (type or print) CSDS Finkelt CSDS Finkelt
Date 3/1/19	Name (type or print) Joanne Turner	Signature Of Law Enforcement Officer CSDS Finkelt
<input type="checkbox"/> Notary	Signature Joanne Turner	Title Of Law Enforcement Officer Criminal Specialist
SEAL	Date My Commission Expires	Name And Address Of Agency NCBI 3320 Garner Rd Raleigh NC
	County Where Notarized	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk Of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate		

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

I, the undersigned, received a copy of this inventory.

Date	Signature Of Person Receiving Inventory
------	---



**ATTACHMENT # 2**

**Affidavit of Criminal Specialist D. S. Faircloth**

I, D. S. Faircloth being duly sworn depose and say the following:

I am 44 years old, a citizen of the United States and a resident of North Carolina. In the Spring of 1996, I graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

I am employed as a Criminal Specialist (CS) of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. I am assigned to the Special Investigations Unit to investigate cases of public corruption and other related crimes in violation of the North Carolina criminal laws.

In my capacity as a Criminal Specialist (CS), I have been assigned to conduct a criminal investigation concerning possible absentee ballot fraud committed in Bladen County, North Carolina by Leslie McCrae Dowless (McCrae Dowless) and others. This investigation was initiated at the request of District Attorney N. Lorrin Freeman in the 10<sup>th</sup> Prosecutorial District.

On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, this agent interviewed Tonia Gordon at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Gordon told CS Faircloth that McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to have several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina complete the forms. Gordon went to several individuals in Bladen County to complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Gordon would

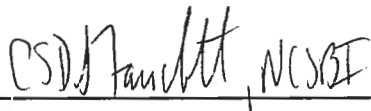
(SD) Faircloth, NC SBI 11/17/2019  
SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT DATE

[Signature] 11/17/2019  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE DATE

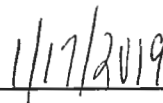


return all the completed "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" back to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay Gordon \$5.00 for every "State Absentee Ballot Request Form" she returned to him. Gordon would then go to the individual's residence after the ballot was mailed to the individual that requested it. Gordon would sign as a witness on the outer envelope that the individual completed their ballot. Gordon would collect the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot and return it to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay \$5.00 to Gordon for the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot.

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Kelly Hendrix at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Hendrix said McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to go to several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina, and have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix went to several individuals in Bladen County to have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix collected all the completed "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and returned them to McCrae Dowless. Hendrix said McCrae Dowless would pay her "gas money" to go to different individual's residence to have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix would then go to the individual's residence when the ballot was mailed to the individual's residence. Hendrix would sign as a witness that the individual filled out their ballot and placed the ballot inside a sealed envelope. Hendrix would then collect the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot from the individual and return the sealed envelope to McCrae Dowless.



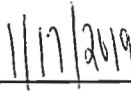
SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



DATE



SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE:

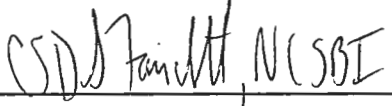



DATE

On Thursday, December 27, 2018, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Matthew Matthis at a location in Sampson County, North Carolina. Matthis identified himself as a worker for McCrae Dowless. Dowless told Matthis to go out into Bladen County, North Carolina and get individuals to complete the absentee ballot request forms. Matthis would carry 20 absentee ballot request forms to Dowless that were filled out. Dowless would pay Matthis \$112.50. Matthis would then go back to those same 20 individuals and get their completed absentee ballot and envelope and carry those to Dowless. Dowless would pay Matthis \$112.50 for the completed absentee ballots in the envelopes.

CS Faircloth has interviewed multiple individuals that were employed by Dowless in both the 2016 general election and the 2018 primary and general elections which gave similar accounts as to their dealings with McCrae Dowless.

Campaign finance reports filed with the North Carolina State Board of Elections indicate that Patriots for Progress was established on July 21, 2014 as a political action committee by Jeffery Smith. In correspondence with the State Board of Elections on July 31, 2015, McCrae Dowless identified himself as the President of Patriots for Progress. Campaign finance reports filed on behalf of the Patriots for Progress political action committee reflect payments to McCrae Dowless in 2014 and 2015. In January, 2016, in a letter sent to the State Board of Elections, it was indicated that Dowless was no longer an officer with Patriots for Progress. In a statement of organization filed March 21, 2016, Tabitha L. Joyce was reported as treasurer for

 1/17/2019  
SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT DATE

 1/17/2019  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE DATE

Patriots for Progress. The filing indicated Patriots for Progress was a political action committee and under committee information the category "get out the vote" was marked. Public documents from the State Board of Elections show various "Notice of Noncompliance" letters regarding failures to file required campaign finance reports with the State Board of Elections in violation of N.C.G.S. § 163-278.27 were sent to Patriots for Progress in 2016 and through 2018. On September 19, 2017, the State Board of Elections terminated the active status of Patriots for Progress for noncompliance with the provisions of Article 22A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.


Your affiant has reviewed campaign finance reports from the 2016 election cycle for County Commissioner Candidate Ashley Trivette. Ms. Trivette is one of several local candidates who made payments to McCrae Dowless during election cycles in 2016 and 2018. The Third Quarter Campaign Finance Disclosure Report for Ms. Trivette shows two payments to McCrae Dowless for \$700 each for which the required remarks field reflects "Patriots for Progress". The Third Quarter Campaign Finance Disclosure Report for Patriots for Progress reflect no corresponding entries.

Your affiant believes there is probable cause to show violations of the North Carolina State Election and Campaign Finance Laws have occurred.

Information about the financial transactions of the Political Action Committee Patriots for Progress is valuable to the completion of the criminal investigation. Campaign finance

  
SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

  
DATE

  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

  
DATE

disclosure reports indicate that Patriots for Progress used Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as its financial institution.

Therefore, your affiant respectfully requests that a search warrant be issued to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. for a copy of any and all open and closed Wells Fargo Bank, N.A accounts and records associated with Patriots for Progress, since account opening, whether held solely or jointly, to include but not limited to the following records: signature cards (current and past), account opening information, bank statements cancelled checks (front and back), deposit slips and the items making up the deposits, cashier's checks and offsets, official checks and offsets, wire transfers and wire transfer detail, cash in/out tickets, online banking activity and login information, video surveillance and any other records associated with Patriots for Progress.

CS Det. [Signature], NC SBI

11/17/2019

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

DATE

[Signature]

11/17/2019

SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

DATE



**Attachment # 1**

**Description of Items to be seized**

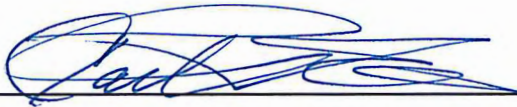
A copy of any and all open and closed Wells Fargo Bank, N.A accounts and records associated with Patriots for Progress, since account opening, whether held solely or jointly, to include but not limited to the following records: signature cards (current and past), account opening information, bank statements cancelled checks (front and back), deposit slips and the items making up the deposits, cashier's checks and offsets, official checks and offsets, wire transfers and wire transfer detail, cash in/out tickets, online banking activity and login information, video surveillance and any other records associated with Patriots for Progress.

CS/DJ Fainlett, NCSDI

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

1/17/2019

DATE



SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

1/17/2019

DATE

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

FILED IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT  
ISSUED IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE INVESTIGATION  
BY N.C. STATE BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION 2018-00619

2019 FEB 14 PM 12:30

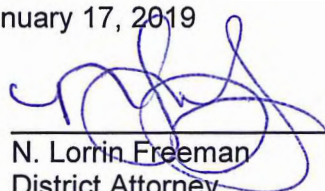
WAKE COUNTY, C.S.C.  
MOTION

Now comes the State of North Carolina by and through District Attorney Lorrin Freeman for an order sealing the search warrant, the application of search warrant and the inventories of the items seized pursuant to the search warrant by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation. The State shows the following:

1. The N.C. State Bureau of Investigation is involved in an ongoing investigation. At this time, no charges have been initiated and the investigation continues.
2. That the investigators with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation applied for a search warrant to obtain records in the custody and control of Metro PCS in the above captioned investigation on January 17, 2019.
3. That once served return of the search warrant, the return and inventories of items seized will be made to the Wake County Clerk of Superior Court.
4. That these search warrants, including the inventories, and the returns thereof, have not been filed heretofore with the Wake County Clerk of Court.
5. That the affidavit attached to these search warrants include information that has not been previously been made public and to publicly disclose the information might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the State to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

WHEREFORE, the State moves the Court seal the application for search warrant and search warrant applied for on January 17, 2019, the return and inventories of items seized by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation and this motion.

This, the 17th day of January 17, 2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
N. Lorrin Freeman  
District Attorney

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

FILED

THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

2019 FEB 14 PM 12:30

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT  
ISSUED IN CONNECTION  
WITH THE INVESTIGATION  
N.C. STATE BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION 2018-00619

WAKE COUNTY, C.S.C.



ORDER RE: SEARCH WARRANT

THIS CAUSE HAVING COME ON TO BE HEARD before the Judge  
Presiding, and it appearing to the Court:

1. That a search warrant was issued on January 17, 2019, at the request of the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation as part of an ongoing investigation. This search warrant was for the purpose of obtaining records in the custody and control of Metro PCS.
2. That the success of this investigation by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation may be hindered by the publishing, at this time, of the contents of the application and warrant, and return thereof, this Motion and Order in the several manners described in the State's Motion to Seal.
3. That information included in the search warrant, any attachments, application for search, the inventories of items seized, and the return includes sensitive information which is the subject of an ongoing investigation. The Court finds that return of the search warrant, any attachments, application for search, the inventories of items seized and the return is proper in Wake County based on the search warrant having been served in Wake County and in an effort to protect the investigation.
4. That the interest of justice will best be served by temporarily sealing said warrant, any attachments, return, application for search, the inventories of items seized, the Motion and Order.
5. That to publicly disclose the basis for the search warrant, or the inventory of those matters recovered from this location might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the state to prosecute a

defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

6. The information gained in the execution of this search warrant may be of substantial investigative value, leading to other searches, and that this entire investigation is an active process at this time.

It is therefore ORDERED that the application and search warrant, issued on the above referenced date, and the return and inventories therefore, and this Motion be sealed by the Court and the contents thereof not released for period of 90 days, with leave to request an additional period upon showing of good cause.

This, the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.

  
Superior Court Judge



Film No.	File No.
SEARCH WARRANT	
In the Matter of <b>Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121</b>	
Date Issued <b>01/17/2019</b>	Time issued <b>10:23</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM
Name of Applicant	
Name of additional Affiant	
Name of Additional Affiant	
RETURN OF SERVICE	
I certify that this Search WARRANT was received and executed as follows:	
Date Received <b>1/17/2019</b>	Time Received <b>10:23</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM
Date Executed <b>1/17/2019</b>	Date and Time Return
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I made a search of <u>Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121</u> by email to <u>subpoenas@metropcs.com</u> on <u>1/17/2019</u> at <u>4:05 pm</u> _____ as commanded.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I seized the items listed on the attached Inventory. <input type="checkbox"/> I did not seize any items. <input type="checkbox"/> This warrant was not executed within 48 hours of the date of issuance and I hereby return it not executed	
Signature of Officer Making Return <b>CSDS Fanchott NCSBI</b>	
Department or Agency of Officer <b>NCSBI Raleigh NC</b>	

AOC-CR-119 / Rev 8/83

## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

~~Bladen County~~ <sup>DSF</sup> Wake County

## In the General court of Justice

Superior Court Division

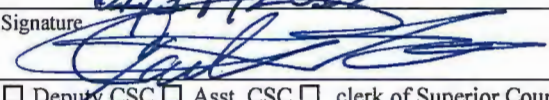
To any officer with authority and jurisdiction to conduct the search authorized by this Search Warrant:

I, the undersigned, find that there is probable cause to believe that the property and person described in the application on the reverse side and related to the commission of a crime is located as describe the application.

You are commanded to search the premises, vehicle, person, and other place or item described in the application for the property and person in question. If the property and/or person are found, make the seizure and keep the property subject to Court Order and process the person according to law.

You are directed to execute this Search Warrant within forty-eight (48) hours from the time indicated on this warrant and make due return to the Clerk of Issuing Court.

This Search Warrant is issued upon information furnished under oath by the person or persons shown.

Date <b>01/17/2019</b>
Signature 
<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Asst. CSC <input type="checkbox"/> clerk of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate <input type="checkbox"/> District Ct. Judge <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> superior CT. Judge

Date <b>2/14/2019</b>	Time <b>12:35</b> <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PM
Signature <b>Cynthia H. B. Bobbitt</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy <input type="checkbox"/> Asst. CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of Superior Court	

## APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT

I, Criminal Specialist D. S. Faircloth with the North Carolina, being duly sworn, request that the Court issue a warrant to search the person, place, vehicle, and other items described in this application and to find and seize the property and person described in this application. There is probable cause to believe that (Describe property to be seized; or if search warrant is to be used for searching a place to serve an arrest warrant or other process, name person to be arrested.)

SEE ATTACHED "PROPERTY/EVIDENCE TO BE SEIZED"

constitutes evidence of a crime and the identity of a person participating in a crime, NCGS Statute NCGS 163A-920; 163A-1298(a)(6); 163A-1317; Election Law Violation

and is located (check appropriate box(s) and fill-in specified information)

☒ in the following premises: SEE ATTACHED "PLACES TO BE SEARCHED"

☐ (and) on the following person(s)

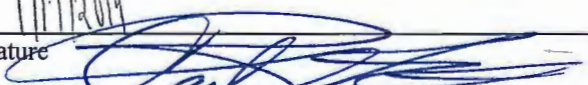
☐ (and) in the following vehicle(s)

☐ (and) (Name or describe other places or items to be searched, if applicable)

The applicant swears to the following facts to establish probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant:

SEE ATTACHED "PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT".

### SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME

Date	11/17/2019	CSDJ Faircloth, NCBI
Signature		Signature of Applicant
<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Asst CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judge		

☒ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by additional affidavit(s), attached, made by the above named applicant

☐ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by sworn testimony given by: \_\_\_\_\_

This testimony has been ☐ reduced to writing ☐ tape recorded and I have filed each with the Clerk.  
If a continuation is necessary, continue the statement on an attached sheet of paper with notation saying "see attachment."  
Date the continuation and include on it the signatures of applicant and issuing official.

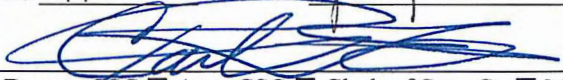
Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121

ATTACHMENT I- PROPERTY/EVIDENCE TO BE SEIZED:

The facts and circumstances outlined in this affidavit suggest that the following items of evidentiary value should be seized:

1. Electronic copies of text messages (content and activity) for target telephone number 910-885-1121 for the dates of January 1, 2016 – January 15, 2019.
2. Incoming and outgoing call records (CDR Reports) including cellular tower locations without geographical limits; global positioning locations; pertaining to target telephone number 910-885-1121 for the dates of January 1, 2016 – January 15, 2019.
3. Any and all PCMD (per call measurement data) reports, NELOS reports, RTT (range to tower) reports, historical GPS location, etc. related to target telephone number 910-885-1121 for as far back as this data is kept.
4. Any and all EVDO Data reports related to target telephone number 910-885-1121 for as far back as this data is kept.
5. All subscriber information related to the cellular telephone number 910-885-1121 for as far back as this data is kept.
6. Any and all stored voicemails related to target telephone number 910-885-1121 for as far back as this data is kept.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME  
THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF January, 20 19.

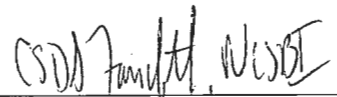
  
☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Asst. CSC ☐ Clerk of Sup. Ct. ☐ Mag. ☒ Judge

  
Signature of Applicant

Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121

ATTACHMENT II- PLACES TO BE SEARCHED:

The places to be searched are the records maintained by Metro PCS, for target telephone number 910-885-1121. If the records for this target number are maintained by cellular telephone service providers other than the above listed provider, this search warrant shall also authorize the production of records from these cellular telephone service providers.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME  
THIS 17th DAY OF January, 20 19.☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Asst. CSC ☐ Clerk of Sup. Ct. ☐ Mag. ☐ Judge

Signature of Applicant



Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121

ATTACHMENT III- PROBABLE CAUSE AFFIDAVIT:

The Affiant swears to the following facts to establish probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant:

I, D. S. Faircloth being duly sworn depose and say the following:

I am 44 years old, a citizen of the United States and a resident of North Carolina. In the Spring of 1996, I graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

I am employed as a Criminal Specialist (CS) of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. I am assigned to the Special Investigations Unit to investigate cases of public corruption and other related crimes in violation of the North Carolina criminal laws.


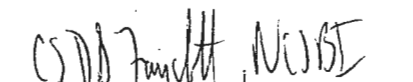
The information received during the course of this investigation is discussed in this affidavit and is believed to be true and accurate by CS D. S. Faircloth.

In my capacity as a Criminal Specialist (CS), I have been assigned to conduct a criminal investigation concerning possible absentee ballot fraud committed in Bladen County, North Carolina by McCrae Dowless and others. This investigation was initiated at the request of District Attorney N. Lorrin Freeman in the 10th Prosecutorial District.

On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, CS Faircloth and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent (SA) James Kaylor interviewed Tonia Gordon at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Gordon told CS Faircloth that McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to have several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina complete the forms. Gordon went to several individuals in Bladen County to complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Gordon would return all the completed "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" back to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay Gordon \$5.00 for every "State Absentee Ballot Request Form" she returned to him. Gordon would then go to the individual's residence after the ballot was mailed to the individual that requested it. Gordon would sign as a witness on the outer envelope that the individual completed their ballot. Gordon would collect the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot and return it to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay \$5.00 to Gordon for the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 11 DAY OF January, 2019.

☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Asst. CSC ☐ Clerk of Sup. Ct. ☐ Mag. ☐ Judge  
Signature of Applicant

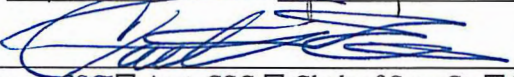
Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Kelly Hendrix at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Hendrix said McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to go to several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina, and have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix went to several individuals in Bladen County to have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix collected all the completed "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and returned them to McCrae Dowless. Hendrix said McCrae Dowless would pay her "gas money" to go to different individual's residence to have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix would then go to the individual's residence when the ballot was mailed to the individual's residence. Hendrix would sign as a witness that the individual filled out their ballot and placed the ballot inside a sealed envelope. Hendrix would then collect the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot from the individual and return the sealed envelope to McCrae Dowless.

On Thursday, December 27, 2018, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Matthew Matthis at a location in Sampson County, North Carolina. Matthis said he worked for McCrae Dowless for approximately two months prior to the General Election 2016. McCrae Dowless told Matthis he was running for Soil and Water Conservation and he wanted Matthis to go out and get individuals to complete absentee ballot forms. McCrae Dowless told Matthis once he collected 20 absentee ballot request forms that were filled out to turn them into McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless paid Matthis \$112.50 for every 20 absentee ballots that were filled out. McCrae Dowless would tell Matthis when the individual received their absentee ballot in the mail. Matthis would then go to the individual and collect their completed absentee ballot that was placed in an envelope. Matthis would sign as a witness' signature on the outer envelope of the completed absentee ballot. Matthis would turn in all the completed absentee ballots inside their envelopes to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would pay Matthis \$112.50 for every 20 completed absentee ballots he collected for McCrae Dowless. Matthis said he talked by telephone with McCrae Dowless prior to Matthis speaking with the investigators from the North Carolina State Board of Elections. McCrae Dowless wanted to meet with Matthis and his girlfriend, Caityln Croom, so McCrae Dowless could tell them what to say and how to say it to the investigators with the North Carolina State Board of Elections. Matthis confirmed in the interview that McCrae Dowless' telephone number was 910-885-1121. Matthis said he would communicate with McCrae Dowless by text message regarding work Matthis was doing for McCrae Dowless with the collection of completed absentee ballot request forms and collection of completed absentee ballots placed inside their envelopes. Matthis would be a witness' signature on the outer envelope of the completed absentee ballot. Matthis would turn in the absentee ballot request forms and the completed absentee ballots to McCrae Dowless. Matthis was paid by McCrae Dowless at that time. Matthis said a text message was sent to McCrae Dowless regarding receiving a bonus payment from McCrae Dowless if certain political candidates won their elections.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 11th DAY OF January, 20 19.

  
☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Asst. CSC ☐ Clerk of Sup. Ct. ☐ Mag. ☐ Judge

  
 Signature of Applicant


Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121

On Monday, January 7, 2019, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Caityln Croom at a location in Wilmington, North Carolina. Croom would go to different individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina and have them complete an absentee ballot request form. Croom said she would collect 20 completed absentee ballot request forms and turn them into McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would pay Croom \$112.50. Croom would then go back to the individuals that completed the absentee ballot request forms and collect their completed absentee ballot that was placed inside an envelope by the voter. Croom would collect 20 completed absentee ballots inside their envelopes and turn them into McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would pay Croom \$112.50. Croom confirmed in the interview that McCrae Dowless' telephone number was 910-885-1121. Croom said she would communicate with McCrae Dowless by text message regarding work Croom was doing for McCrae Dowless with the collection of completed absentee ballot request forms and collection of completed absentee ballots placed inside their envelope. Croom would be a witness' signature on the outer envelope of the completed absentee ballot. Croom would turn in the absentee ballot request forms and the completed absentee ballots to McCrae Dowless. Croom was paid by McCrae Dowless at that time. Croom said a text message was sent to McCrae Dowless regarding receiving a bonus payment from McCrae Dowless if certain political candidates won their elections.

All information and facts provided in this affidavit are true and accurate to the best of the applicant's knowledge. The applicant feels that there is sufficient probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant for above-described records.

The applicant would respectfully request the court issue a search warrant for the records maintained by the Metro PCS for target telephone number 910-885-1121.

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME

THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF January, 20 19.  
☐ Deputy CSC ☐ Asst. CSC ☐ Clerk of Sup. Ct. ☐ Mag. ☐ Judge  
Signature of Applicant



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

File No.

Wake

County

In The General Court Of Justice  
☐ District ☐ Superior Court Division**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Name

Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121**INVENTORY OF ITEMS SEIZED  
PURSUANT TO SEARCH**

G.S. 15A-223, -254, -257

I, the undersigned officer, executed a search of:

Person, Premises Or Vehicle Searched

Date Of Search

Metro PCS Telephone Number 910-885-1121 by email to subpoena@s@metroPCS.com  
on 1/17/2019 at 1:05 pm1/17/2019

This search was made pursuant to

- ☒ 1. a search warrant issued by: Superior Court Judge Carl Fox
- ☐ 2. consent to search given by: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 3. other legal justification for the search: \_\_\_\_\_

The following items were seized:

All records maintained by Metro PCS for target number 910-885-1121.  
Criminal Specialist DSGinaboth received the following records by email from T-Mobile  
on 2/6/2019

nothing further CS DSGinaboth NCSBI 2/19/2019

Original - File

Copy - For Search by Warrant of a Person, to Person from Whom Items Taken

Copy - For Search by Warrant of Vehicle/Premises, to Owner or Person in Apparent Control; if No Such Person Present, Leave Copy Affixed Thereon

Copies - For Search by Consent, to Person Giving Consent and Owner of Vehicle/Premises Searched, if Known

AOC-CR-206, Rev. 3/16

(Over)

© 2016 Administrative Office of the Courts



Items Seized Continued:

nothing further CSDS Faircloth NCSBI 2/14/2019

☐ 1. I left a copy of this inventory with the person named below, who is:

- ☐ a. the owner of the premises searched.
- ☐ b. the owner of the vehicle searched.
- ☐ c. the person in apparent control of the premises searched.
- ☐ d. the person in apparent control of the vehicle searched.
- ☐ e. the person from whom the items were taken.

☒ 2. As no person was present, I left a copy of this inventory:

- ☐ a. in the premises searched, identified on the reverse.
- ☐ b. in the vehicle searched, identified on the reverse.

Name And Address Of Person To Whom A Copy Of This Inventory Was Delivered, If Any

CSDS Faircloth emailed a copy of the inventory of items seized pursuant to search to subpoenas@metropcs.com on 2/14/2019 which will be included in the investigative case file for NCSBI Case 2018-00619

The law enforcement agency identified below will hold the seized property subject to court order.

<b>SWORN/AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME</b>		Name Of Law Enforcement Officer (type or print) CSDS Faircloth
Date 2-14-19	Name (type or print) Cynthia H. Bobbitt	Signature Of Law Enforcement Officer CSDS Faircloth, NCSBI
<input type="checkbox"/> Notary	Signature Cynthia H. Bobbitt	Title Of Law Enforcement Officer Criminal Specialist
SEAL	Date My Commission Expires	Name And Address Of Agency NCSBI 3320 Garner Road Raleigh NC
	County Where Notarized	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk Of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate		

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

I, the undersigned, received a copy of this inventory.

Date	Signature Of Person Receiving Inventory
------	---

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT )  
ISSUED IN CONNECTION )  
WITH THE INVESTIGATION )  
BY N.C. STATE BUREAU OF )  
INVESTIGATION 2018-00619 )

2019 JAN 22 AM 8:06  
MOTION  
Wake County, C.S.C.

Now comes the State of North Carolina by and through District Attorney Lorrin Freeman for an extension of the order sealing the search warrant, the application of search warrant and the inventories of the items seized pursuant to the search warrant by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation in the above referenced investigation. The State shows the following:

1. The N.C. State Bureau of Investigation is involved in an ongoing investigation. At this time, no charges have been initiated and the investigation continues.
2. That the investigators with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation applied for a search warrant to obtain records in the custody and control of the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union on December 20, 2018.
3. That this search warrant has now been executed and return made by Agent C.S. Faircloth with the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation.
4. That an order sealing the search warrant and return thereof for 30 days was entered by the Honorable Superior Court Judge Graham Shirley on December 20, 2018.
5. That the affidavit attached to these search warrants include information that has not been previously been made public and to publicly disclose the information might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the State to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

WHEREFORE, the State moves the Court to extend the order sealing the application for search warrant and search warrant applied for on December 20, 2018, and the return and inventories of items seized by the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation and this motion for an additional 60 days beyond January 21, 2019.

This, the 21st day of January, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
N. Lorrin Freeman  
District Attorney



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION  
2019 JAN 22 AM 8:06

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT )  
ISSUED IN CONNECTION )  
WITH THE INVESTIGATION )  
N.C. STATE BUREAU OF )  
INVESTIGATION 2018-00797 )

WAKE COUNTY, C.S.C.  
*che*  
ORDER RE: SEARCH WARRANT

THIS CAUSE HAVING COME ON TO BE HEARD before the Judge  
Presiding, and it appearing to the Court:

1. That a search warrant was issued on December 20, 2018, at the request of the N.C. State Bureau of Investigation as part of an ongoing investigation. This search warrant was for the purpose of obtaining records in the custody and control of the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union.
2. That said search warrant was executed and the return thereof filed with the Clerk of Superior Court under an Order to Seal entered by the Honorable Superior Court Judge Graham Shirley on December 20, 2018.
3. That information included in the search warrant, any attachments, application for search, the inventories of items seized, and the return includes sensitive information which is the subject of an ongoing investigation.
4. That the interest of justice will best be served by continuing the temporary sealing of said warrant, any attachments, return, application for search, the inventories of items seized, and the Motion and Order.
5. That to publicly disclose the basis for the search warrant, or the inventory of those matters recovered from this location might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may release information that could adversely affect persons who are not charged with committing a crime and materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the state to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.





6. The information gained in the execution of this search warrant may be of substantial investigative value, leading to other searches, and that this entire investigation is an active process at this time.

It is therefore ORDERED that the application and search warrant, issued on the above referenced date, and the return and inventories therefore, and this Motion be sealed by the Court for an additional 60 days and the contents thereof not released.

This, the 21<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superior Court Judge



FILED

2018 DEC 20 PM 2:51

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
WAKE COUNTY, C.S.C. SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

BY 

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT ISSUED IN

CONNECTION WITH THE INVESTIGATION

MOTION

SBI CASE: 2018-00619

---

Now comes the State of North Carolina by and through District Attorney N. Lorrin Freeman for an order sealing the search warrant, the application of the search warrant and the inventory of the items seized pursuant to the search warrant by the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) regarding an investigation. The state shows the following:

- (1) The SBI initiated a criminal investigation on February 28, 2018 concerning allegations of possible absentee ballot fraud in Bladen County, North Carolina.
- (2) That the investigation is ongoing and was requested by the Wake County District Attorney's Office.
- (3) That a Criminal Specialist of the SBI applied for a search warrant to receive financial records held by the State Employees' Credit Union on December 5, 2018.
- (4) That such search warrant was executed on December 5, 2018.
- (5) That this search warrant, including the inventory, and the return thereof, have not been filed heretofore with the Wake County Clerk of Court.
- (6) That the affidavit attached to this search warrant includes information and the name of the person that is still under investigation.
- (7) That to disclose the identity of the person might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the state to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

WHEREFORE, the State moves the Court seal the search warrant, the application of the search warrant and the inventory of the items seized by the SBI.

This the 5th day of December 2018.

  
District Attorney N. Lorrin Freeman



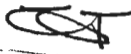


STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
COUNTY OF WAKE

FILED  
2018 DEC 20 PM 2:51

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE  
SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION

IN RE: SEARCH WARRANT ISSUED IN  
CONNECTION WITH THE INVESTIGATION



ORDER

SBI CASE: 2018-00619

THIS CAUSE HAVING COME ON TO BE HEARD before the judge presiding and it appearing to the court:

- (1) That a search warrant was issued on December 5, 2018, pursuant to a North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) investigation of allegations of possible North Carolina election law violations.
- (2) That the success of this investigation by the SBI may be hindered by the publishing, at this time, of the contents of the application and warrant, and return thereof, this Motion and Order in the several manners described in the States Motion to Seal.
- (3) That the information in the search warrant and return includes sensitive information which is the subject of an on-going investigation.
- (4) That the interest of justice will best be served by temporarily maintaining the secrecy of said warrant, return, and Motion and Order.
- (5) That the State Employees' Credit Union will be provided with a copy of the Search Warrant in order to comply with the Search Warrant's Order, AND the State Employees' Credit Union is ORDERED not to disclose the contents of the Search Warrant to anyone, other than as necessary to comply with this Search Warrant and Order.
- (6) That to publicly disclose the basis for the search warrant, or the inventory of those matters recovered from this location might hamper or impede this investigation and/or may materially prejudice further adjudicable procedures involving this investigation and any subsequent prosecution and will jeopardize the right of the state to prosecute a defendant or the right of the defendant to receive a fair trial or will undermine an ongoing investigation.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the application and search warrant issued on the above referenced date and the return therefore, and this Motion, be sealed by the Court and the contents thereof not released for a period of 30 days, with leave to request an additional period upon showing good cause.

This the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December 2018.



Superior Court Judge



**SEARCH WARRANT****IN THE MATTER OF**

Leslie McCrae Dowless

Date Issued

12-5-18

Time Issued

8:48

☒ AM ☐ PM

Name Of Applicant

Criminal Specialist D. S. Faircloth

Name Of Additional Affiant

Name Of Additional Affiant

**RETURN OF SERVICE**

I certify that this Search Warrant was received and executed as follows:

Date Received

12-5-2018

Time Received

8:48

☒ AM ☐ PM

Date Executed

12-5-2018

Time Executed

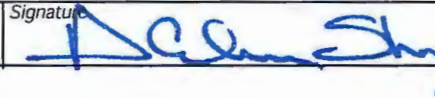
10:20

☒ AM ☐ PM☒ I made a search ofNorth Carolina State  
Employee Credit Union 119 N. Salisbury  
Street, Raleigh NC

Date

12-5-18


Signature

☐ Deputy CSC☐ Assistant CSC☐ CSC☐ Magistrate☐ District Ct. Judge☒ Superior Ct. Judge

\_\_\_\_\_ as commanded.

☒ I seized the items listed on the attached inventory.☐ I did not seize any items.☐ This Warrant WAS NOT executed within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of issuance and I hereby return it not executed.

Signature Of Officer Making Return



Department Or Agency Of Officer

NCJBI

Incident Number

2018-00619

Date

12/20/18

Time

2:49

☐ AM☒ PM

Signature

Joanne Turner

☒ Deputy CSC☐ Assistant CSC☐ Clerk Of Superior Court**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

Wake

County

In The General Court Of Justice  
District/Superior Court Division

To any officer with authority and jurisdiction to conduct the search authorized by this Search Warrant:

I, the undersigned, find that there is probable cause to believe that the property and person described in the application on the reverse side and related to the commission of a crime is located as described in the application.

You are commanded to search the premises, vehicle, person and other place or item described in the application for the property and person in question. If the property and/or person are found, make the seizure and keep the property subject to Court Order and process the person according to law.

You are directed to execute this Search Warrant within forty-eight (48) hours from the time indicated on this Warrant and make due return to the Clerk of the Issuing Court.

This Search Warrant is issued upon information furnished under oath by the person(s) shown.

This Search Warrant was returned to me on the date and time shown below.





# APPLICATION FOR SEARCH WARRANT

I, D. S. Faircloth, Criminal Specialist, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation,

(Insert name and address; or if law enforcement officer, name, rank and agency)

being duly sworn, request that the Court issue a warrant to search the person, place, vehicle, and other items described in this application and to find and seize the property and person described in this application. There is probable cause to believe that (Describe property to be seized; or if search warrant is to be used for searching a place to serve an arrest warrant or other process, name person to be arrested)

See Attachment #1

constitutes evidence of a crime and the identity of a person participating in a crime, (Name crime) NCGS 163A-920; 163A-1298(a)(6); 163A-1317

and is located (Check appropriate box(es) and fill-in specified information)

☒ in the following premises (Give address and, if useful, describe premises)

State Employees' Credit Union

119 N. Salisbury St.  
Raleigh, NC 27603

(and)

☐ on the following person(s) (Give name(s) and, if useful, describe person(s))

(and)

☐ in the following vehicle(s) (Describe vehicle(s))

(and)

☐ (Name and/or describe other places or items to be searched, if applicable)

The applicant swears to the following facts to establish probable cause for the issuance of a search warrant:

See Attachment #2

**SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME**

Date

12-5-2018

Date

12-5-18

Signature of Applicant

DS Faircloth

Signature

[Signature]

☐ Magistrate

☐ Dep. CSC

☐ Asst. CSC

☐ Clerk of Superior Court

☒ Judge

☐ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by additional affidavits, attached, made by \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In addition to the affidavit included above, this application is supported by sworn testimony, given by \_\_\_\_\_

This testimony has been (check appropriate box) ☐ reduced to writing

☐ tape recorded and I have filed each with the clerk.

**NOTE:** If more space is needed for any section, continue the statement on an attached sheet of paper with a notation saying "see attachment." Date the continuation and include on it the signatures of applicant and issuing official.



## Attachment # 1

## Description of Items to be seized

A copy of all records and transactions maintained by the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union for transactions conducted using the CashPoints ATM in Bladenboro, North Carolina on May 3, 2018 between 8:15 a.m. and 9 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time) and the CashPoints ATM in Elizabethtown, North Carolina on May 3, 2018 between 10:35 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time). The records should consist of but not be limited to the following: account holder information, account numbers, names of financial institutions, video surveillance images, and any other records tied to ATM activity during the above referenced times and locations.

D.S. Fairbairn, NCBI 12-5-2018

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT DATE

Dea St 12-5-18  
SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE DATE





**ATTACHMENT # 2**

**Affidavit of Criminal Specialist D. S. Faircloth**

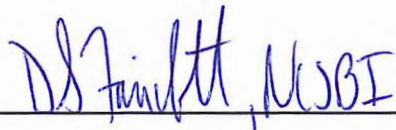
I, D. S. Faircloth being duly sworn depose and say the following:

I am 44 years old, a citizen of the United States and a resident of North Carolina. In the Spring of 1996, I graduated from East Carolina University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

I am employed as a Criminal Specialist (CS) of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation. I am assigned to the Special Investigations Unit to investigate cases of public corruption and other related crimes in violation of the North Carolina criminal laws.

In my capacity as a Criminal Specialist (CS), I have been assigned to conduct a criminal investigation concerning possible absentee ballot fraud committed in Bladen County, North Carolina by McCrae Dowless and others. This investigation was initiated at the request of District Attorney N. Lorrin Freeman in the 10<sup>th</sup> Prosecutorial District.

The absentee ballot by mail request form became available for Bladen County registered voters on March 19, 2018. The deadline to make an absentee ballot request was May 1, 2018. The completed absentee ballot had to be at the Bladen County Board of Election Office on May 8, 2018 or the completed absentee ballot had to be postmarked by 5:00 p.m. on May 8, 2018 if the Bladen

 D. S. Faircloth, NC SBI

SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT

12-5-2018

DATE



SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE

12-5-18

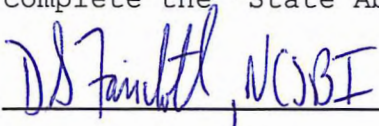
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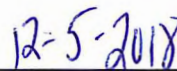
County registered voter mailed their completed absentee ballot to the Bladen County Board of Elections Office.

On Wednesday, October 17, 2018, CS Faircloth and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent (SA) James Kaylor interviewed Tonia Gordon at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Gordon told CS Faircloth that McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to have several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina complete the forms. Gordon went to several individuals in Bladen County to complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Gordon would return all the completed "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" back to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay Gordon \$5.00 for every "State Absentee Ballot Request Form" she returned to him. Gordon would then go to the individual's residence after the ballot was mailed to the individual that requested it. Gordon would sign as a witness on the outer envelope that the individual completed their ballot. Gordon would collect the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot and return it to McCrae Dowless. McCrae Dowless would then pay \$5.00 to Gordon for the sealed envelope containing the completed ballot.

On Thursday, October 18, 2018, CS Faircloth and CS C. L. Barefoot of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation interviewed Kelly Hendrix at a location in Bladen County, North Carolina. Hendrix said McCrae Dowless gave her several blank "State Absentee Ballot Request Forms" and told her to go to several individuals in Bladen County, North Carolina, and have them complete the "State Absentee Ballot Request Form." Hendrix went



SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



DATE



SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE



DATE





Surveillance was conducted on Thursday, May 3, 2018, by SA Kaylor of the CashPoints ATM located in Bladenboro, North Carolina in close proximity to Bladen County Community College. SA Kaylor witnessed McCrae Dowless at approximately 8:25 a.m. meet with different individuals outside the convenience gas station where the same CashPoints ATM was located in Bladenboro, North Carolina. SA Kaylor witnessed the individuals that met with McCrae Dowless go to this same CashPoints ATM in close proximity of time that they met with McCrae Dowless to conduct one or more transactions at the CashPoints ATM.

D.S. Faircloth, NCSBI

12-5-2018

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12-5-18

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

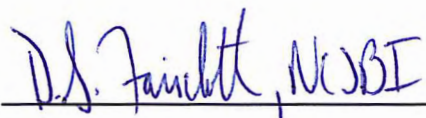


Dowless conduct one or more transactions at the CashPoints ATM at approximately 10:45 a.m.

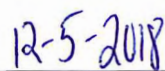
Your affiant believes there is probable cause to show violations of the North Carolina State Election Laws have occurred.

Information about the transactions conducted at the CashPoints ATMs is valuable to the completion of the criminal investigation. A representative from the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union advised no accounts existed in the name of McCrae Dowless. However, the representative of the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union stated CashPoints ATMs accept bank cards from a variety of financial institutions. The representative confirmed the State Employees' Credit Union was the custodian of financial records for all transactions made at CashPoints ATM locations in North Carolina.

Therefore, your affiant respectfully requests that a search warrant be issued to the North Carolina State Employees' Credit Union for copies of all financial records and transactions conducted using the CashPoints ATM in Bladenboro, North Carolina on May 3, 2018 between 8:15 a.m. and 9 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time) and the CashPoints ATM in Elizabethtown, North Carolina on May 3, 2018 between 10:35 a.m. and 10:55 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time). The records should consist of but not be limited to the following: account holder information, account numbers, names of financial institutions, video surveillance images, and any other records tied to ATM activity during the above referenced times and locations.



SIGNATURE OF AFFIANT



DATE



SIGNATURE OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE



DATE



# STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

File No.

Wake

County

In The General Court Of Justice  
☐ District ☐ Superior Court Division

## IN THE MATTER OF:

Name

Leslie McCrae Dowless

## INVENTORY OF ITEMS SEIZED PURSUANT TO SEARCH

G.S. 15A-223, -254, -257

I, the undersigned officer, executed a search of:

Person, Premises Or Vehicle Searched

North Carolina State Employees Credit Union  
 119 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC

Date Of Search

12-5-2018

This search was made pursuant to

- ☒ 1. a search warrant issued by: Superior Court Judge Graham Shirley
- ☐ 2. consent to search given by: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ 3. other legal justification for the search: \_\_\_\_\_

The following items were seized:

All records and transactions maintained by North Carolina State Employees Credit Union for transactions conducted at CashPoint ATM in Bladenboro NC on May 3, 2018 between 8:15am and 9:00am and CashPoints ATM in Elizabethtown, NC on May 3, 2018 between 10:35am and 10:55am

nothing further DS Furett 12/12/2018 3:55pm

Original - File

Copy - For Search by Warrant of a Person, to Person from Whom Items Taken

Copy - For Search by Warrant of Vehicle/Premises, to Owner or Person in Apparent Control; if No Such Person Present, Leave Copy Affixed Thereon

Copies - For Search by Consent, to Person Giving Consent and Owner of Vehicle/Premises Searched, if Known



Items Seized Continued:

nothing further DS Finckel 12/12/2018 3:55pm

☒ 1. I left a copy of this inventory with the person named below, who is:

- ☐ a. the owner of the premises searched.  
☐ b. the owner of the vehicle searched.  
☐ c. the person in apparent control of the premises searched.  
☐ d. the person in apparent control of the vehicle searched.  
☒ e. the person from whom the items were taken.

Corey Mathes, Senior Vice President Risk Management, Raleigh, NC

☐ 2. As no person was present, I left a copy of this inventory:

- ☐ a. in the premises searched, identified on the reverse.  
☐ b. in the vehicle searched, identified on the reverse.

Name And Address Of Person To Whom A Copy Of This Inventory Was Delivered, If Any

The law enforcement agency identified below will hold the seized property subject to court order.

<b>SWORN/AFFIRMED AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME</b>		Name Of Law Enforcement Officer (type or print) DS Finckel NCSBI	
Date 12/20/18	Name (type or print) Joanne Turner	Signature Of Law Enforcement Officer DS Finckel NCSBI	
<input type="checkbox"/> Notary	Signature Joanne Turner	Title Of Law Enforcement Officer Criminal Specialist	
<b>SEAL</b>	Date My Commission Expires	Name And Address Of Agency	
	County Where Notarized	NCSBI 3320 Garner Road Raleigh NC	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant CSC <input type="checkbox"/> Clerk Of Superior Court <input type="checkbox"/> Magistrate			

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**

I, the undersigned, received a copy of this inventory.

Date  
12/12/2018

Signature Of Person Receiving Inventory  
[Signature]